



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE
LESTER SPELL, JR., D.V.M.
COMMISSIONER

Press Release

Contact: Andy Prosser, Public Relations Director
(601) 359-1158
E-mail: andy@mdac.state.ms.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 2, 2008

What: 3rd Anniversary of the Mississippi Farmers Market
When: Saturday, June 14 beginning at 8:00 a.m.
Where: Mississippi Farmers Market on the Fairgrounds

Mississippi Farmers Market Anniversary Event Highlights Home-Grown Recipe Cook-off

It is that time of year again to celebrate the beginning of summer and the peak harvest of some of Mississippi's finest fruits and vegetables at the Mississippi Farmers Market. Located at the corner of High and Jefferson Streets next to the Mississippi State Fairgrounds, the Mississippi Farmers Market will celebrate its third anniversary on Saturday, June 14, 2008, from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. This fun-filled, seasonal kickoff event will feature the finest farm-raised fruits, vegetables, plants, and crafts that Mississippi farmers and artisans have to offer. Not to mention, live music from local celebrities SweetWater Jade, complementary Bluebell ice cream and Milo's ice tea, caricatures by Bob Pennebaker, entertainment for the kids, and an exciting main event that will feature a recipe cook-off contest from contestants across the state.

The cook-off will feature twelve chosen Mississippians that will compete for a chance to win great prizes, receive statewide radio recognition, and most importantly, obtain undisputed bragging rights as "The Next Great Mississippi Homegrown Recipe" winner. Contestants will have the opportunity to show off their cooking skills from some of their favorite recipes that incorporate at least 25% Mississippi grown fruits and vegetables. Radio personalities, that include Paul Ott, will give play by play commentary of the cooking action that will mimic the hit T.V. show "*Iron Chef America*" as seen on the Food Network. Sponsors for this contest include: The Clear Channel Radio Network, Cowboy Maloney's, Viking, Mississippi Magazine, Magnolia Pewter, and M&W Furniture Gallery.

With an increasing demand and awareness for locally grown fruits and vegetables, the Mississippi Farmers Market provides an outlet for Mississippi's public to buy directly from the Mississippi farmers who grow it. Whether you're looking for greens or lettuce, squash or tomatoes, or an assortment of other products, the Mississippi Farmers Market is the place to be.

Hours for the Mississippi Farmers Market are Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 9:00 a.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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